

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Tomonori KATO et al. :  
Serial No. NEW : **Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**  
Filed October 31, 2003 : Attorney Docket No. 2003\_1576  
VACUUM CLEANER

**(Rule 1.53(b) Divisional of Serial No. 10/035,139,  
Filed January 4, 2002, which is a divisional of  
Serial No. 09/347,412 filed July 6, 1999, now  
U.S. Patent No. 6,345,411)**

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of ☒ the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or ☐ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. 10/035,139.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, **or**

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

**and thus no certification and/or fee is required.**

- 1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**  
(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and  
the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

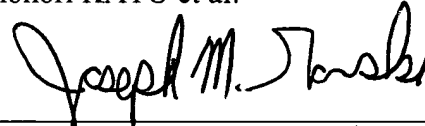
- a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or  
b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. ☐ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page ,
  - d. ☐ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tomonori KATO et al.

By 

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October 31, 2003

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: October 31, 2003

ATTY DOCKET NO.  
2003\_1576SERIAL NO.  
NEWAPPLICANT  
Tomonori KATO et al.FILING DATE  
October 31, 2003

GROUP

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,664,285	9/1997	Melito et al.			
	AB	1,965,614	7/1934	Sellers			
	AC	3,704,482	12/1972	Brannon			
	AD	4,581,787	4/1986	Torigoe et al.			
	AE	5,014,388	5/1991	Schiazza et al.			
	AF	5,502,872	4/1996	Chae et al.			
	AG	5,553,347	9/1996	Inoue et al.			
	AH	5,799,363	9/1998	Inoue et al.			
	AI	6,032,327	3/2000	Oka et al.			
	AJ	4,393,536	7/1983	Tapp			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AK	0 413 415	6/1991	EP				
	AL	85 13 126	9/1985	Germany				
	AM	2 292 882	3/1996	Great Britain				
	AN	41 35 406	5/1992	Germany				
	AO	03-272720	12-1991	Japan				
	AP	05-111167	10-1991	Japan				

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AQ	
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of form with next communication to applicant.

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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4,173,809	11-1979	Ku, Paul H.			
	AB	4,513,470	4-1985	Toya, Syouichi			
	AC	4,835,409	5-1989	Bhagwat et al.			
	AD	5,005,252	4-1991	Steiner et al.			
	AE	5,025,529	6-1991	Hult et al.			
	AF	5,284,522	2-1994	Kobayashi et al.			
	AG	5,560,077	10-1996	Crotchett, Diane L.			
	AH	5,671,499	9-1997	Melito et al.			
	AI	6,125,498	10-2000	Roberts et al.			
	AJ	6,125,500	10-2000	Kat, Niels			
	AK	US 20020124343A1	9-2002	Reed			
	AL	4,536,694	8-1985	McCarty et al.			
	AM	5,525,888	6-1996	Toya, Shoichi			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							
	AR							

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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